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dering from the right way, impurity, hostility to God, who is entreated to take it away and graciously avert his righteous anger. In spite of their polytheism, the tone and spirit of many passages remind us strongly of the Hebrew Psalms, the god who is addressed being exalted to the very highest heaven. Invariably, however, the intercession of some other god is implored, a mediator was deemed necessary. There is one psalm in which no particular deity is named. The poet, as usual, makes the penitent speak of his god or his goddess, but this probably means nothing more than guardian angel; further, confession of a "known or unknown sin" is made to a "known or unknown god." Though this is not monotheism, it approaches it closely. The god or goddess invoked as the petitioner's own, is none other than his better Self. If he sins, his god or goddess forsakes him, and his first intercession is for the god's return, his first effort for his propitiation.

All this proves that religion in Babylonia reached early a comparatively high development. However much of the external and formal, of the superstitious and magical may have clung to the worship, there was no lack of deep religious feeling and moral earnestness, which expressed itself most powerfully in the penitential psalms.

OLD TESTAMENT NOTES AND NOTICES.

Quite a number of changes have taken place within the last few weeks in the Old Testament professorships of the German universities. At Rostock, in the place of the late Dr. Bachmann, we now find Dr. E. König, late docent at Leipzig, and with this change the last of the anti-analytical men has been succeeded by one who believes in pentateuchal analysis. Professor König is one of the leading opponents of the Wellhausen reconstruction scheme and is a prolific writer. The University of Halle has lost both its Old Testament men, Schlottmann and Riehm. In the place of the former, who was also President of the German Bible Revision Committee, Professor Kautzsch, of Tübingen, has been called. Professor Riehm's place is not to be filled for the present. Professor Kautzsch has secured his enviable reputation for accurate scholarship rather through the quality than the quantity of his literary work. There are few among the men in his department who have written less than he; but his revision of Gesenius' grammar, his Aramaic grammar, and other work is of superior excellence. Professor Cornill, who only two years ago was called as extra ordinarius to Königsberg, has been made an ordinarius. Bertheau, of the philosophical faculty in Göttingen, who died several months ago, has been succeeded by Smend, of Basel. It was the intention of the authorities to call Wellhausen, of Marburg, but he was entirely unacceptable to the Hanoverian churchmen. In this way Smend leaves the theological faculty and enters the philosophical, just as Wellhausen did a few years ago.

The announcement comes from Canada that Mr. Hirschfelder, the lecturer in Hebrew and other oriental languages in the University College, Toronto, retires from active duty. Rev. Dr. McCurdy, already a lecturer in this department in the same college, is to be advanced to the position of professor of oriental languages in Toronto University.